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expenditure, either by way of opening additional demonstration farms or appointing agricultural Inspectors. On these general lines, I would now answer the various questions.

No. 72.—The question of agricultural banks will be dealt with in answer to question No. 77. There are now two Demonstration farms, one at Trivandrum and one at Quilon. The former has been in existence for nearly 10 years and is now under the management of an agricultural graduate. Government are not prepared to open more farms just now.

No. 73.—This is a matter mainly for private enterprise. I may, however, say that I had occasion to study the subject sometime ago and the conclusion arrived at by me was that the advantages of grain banks were over-estimated and the difficulties incident to their management very imperfectly realised.

No. 74.—Government heartily sympathise with the desire for the introduction of improved agricultural methods. I must, however, point out that this is a matter mainly for the ryots themselves. The Superintendents of the Agricultural farms at Trivandrum and Quilon will gladly give their advice and help to such ryots as ask for the same.

No. 75.—I have already given my answer to this question.

No. 76.— Government have sanctioned the purchase and maintenance of three seed-bulls at three central stations in the State. Government do not consider it necessary to maintain cattle-depôts at Sirkar expense. That is a matter for private enterprise.

77. ***Agricultural associations and co-operative credit societies.***

Mr. K. C. Joshua (Member, Ambalapuzha Taluk) prayed for the establishment of agricultural banks and associations and co-operative credit societies.

Dewan's reply.— Agricultural associations are unofficial bodies which must be organised and maintained by the people themselves. The best thing that Government can do for them is to leave them to develop on unofficial lines. In regard to co-operative societies, Government will take into consideration the question of legislating on the subject.

78. ***Agricultural schools.***

The member also urged the advisability of establishing agricultural schools and providing other means of instruction in agriculture.

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Dewan's reply.—We had better wait till we get our Agricultural Adviser. He will return in about 10 months. The difficulty on the part of Government now is that we really do not understand these agricultural subjects and if, without understanding them, we organise details and start an establishment, &c., we shall probably start in the wrong way. The establishment will draw the pay and allowances and probably do nothing. We had therefore better wait till we get a man to guide the movement.

79. *Agricultural Inspectors.*

Mr. G. Sankaranarayana Iyer (Member, Shencottah Taluk) prayed for the appointment of Agricultural Inspectors.

Dewan's reply.—The appointment of Agricultural Inspectors must lie over till we have the means of training men for the appointments.

80. *Agricultural implements.*

Mr. P. Parameswaran Pillai (Member, Pattanapuram Taluk) requested that improved agricultural implements and new seeds should be given to the people who should also be instructed how to use them.

Dewan's reply.—The Demonstration farms are intended to show the ryots on what lines they may improve their methods of agriculture. We have now two farms. The Superintendents of both complain that the ryots seldom go to them or ask them for any help. Government regret that, so far, the ryots have not availed themselves adequately of the facilities offered.

81. *Agricultural loans.*

The same member also requested that loans should be given to agriculturists by the Sirkar at low rates of interest.

Dewan's reply.—The Agricultural Loans Regulation, which was passed about 16 years ago, provides for loans to ryots at very cheap interest—4 per cent. per annum. The Regulation however appears to have been so far practically inoperative. Government will now enquire why the facilities offered have not been availed of.

82. *Extension of Railway communication.*

Mr. M. Madhavan Tampi (Member, Kalkulam Taluk) urged the extension of Railway communication in view to advance the convenience of the travelling public, to further the interests of trade and to make up the loss that was being incurred in the payment of guaranteed interest.

Mr. D. Francis (Member, Roman Catholic Christian Association, Nagercoil) prayed for the extension of the

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